Maranatha Baptist University Presents



Pygmalion

Written by
George Bernard Shaw

Adapted by
Angela Morris

November 12-14, 2026

Synopsis

What happens when an impoverished flower girl meets a phonetics expert who decides to make her his latest experiment? When Professor Henry Higgins meets Eliza Doolittle, he is convinced that with enough of his training, he can transform her speech—and, in the process, change her place in society. But as Eliza steps into a world very different from her own, she and Higgins discover that changing the way people speak and behave may not be the same as changing who they are. This adaptation taken from George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion* is full of fun and humor, coupled with a thought-provoking story about what is necessary for a person to change—and who gets to decide what that change should look like.

Scenes

ACT I

Scene 1:
Covent Garden, London, in front of a cathedral
11:15 PM

Scene 2:
Laboratory of Professor Henry Higgins, 27A Wimpole Street
Next morning

Scene 3:
Drawing room of Mrs. Higgins, London
Four months later

INTERMISSION (10 MINUTES)

ACT II

Scene 1:
Laboratory of Henry Higgins, 27A Wimpole Street
2 months later, Midnight

Scene 2:
Drawing room of Mrs. Higgins, London
Next morning

Scene 3:
Laboratory of Professor Henry Higgins, 27A Wimpole Street
That evening

Note from the Director

Thank you so much for joining us this evening. I've thoroughly enjoyed working with our talented cast and crew to bring you this production.

Pygmalion was first produced in 1913 and has intrigued audiences ever since. Set in London, Shaw weaves the tale of a linguist, Professor Henry Higgins, who seeks to transform a common flower girl, Eliza Doolittle, into a regal duchess who can pass as a member of high society.

As an educator, I've long been intrigued regarding the research of Rosenthal and Jacobson. These men raised the question about the impact of teacher expectations on student achievement – coining the term "Pygmalion effect."

In tonight's play, Professor Henry Higgins influences and transforms a flower girl into society's idea of a lady. But by the end of the story the audience realizes that Higgins is also very much in need of change.

When we think of the gospel, we are changed into the image of Christ as we embrace Him as our Savior. II Corinthians 3:18 states:

> *"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image."*

As we behold and comprehend His glory, we are changed into His image. None of us are perfect. We all need change. But Christ has called us to be people in need of change, helping people in need of change.



We trust you enjoy tonight's adaptation of *Pygmalion*.

Angela Morris

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Miss Clara Eynsford Hill ..... Delaney Johns
Mrs. Eynsford Hill..... Katherine Sinclair
Alfred Doolittle ..... Owynn Butler

Townsfolk

AnaElise Bruck, Stephen Harper, Brianna Holloway
Samantha Prigge, Rose Wokaty, Grace Wright

Townsfolk Children

Adelyn Goodwill, Alexander Goodwill, Anna Goodwill

Mr. Freddy Eynsford Hill..... Isaac Sandeen
Eliza Doolittle ..... Kaylee Oetken
Professor Henry Higgins ..... Hunter Weakley
Colonel Pickering ..... Reagan Longsine
Mrs. Pearce ..... Kallei Brown
Maid ..... Rose Wokaty
Mrs. Higgins ..... Hailee Butler
Parlor Maid ..... Samantha Prigge

Play Personnel

Director ..... Angela Morris
Assistant Director ..... Victoria Hinman
Set Design and Technical Director ..... Isaiah Oetken
Costume Coordinator ..... Melody DeLeon
Makeup Supervisor..... Leanna Oetken
Props Supervisor ..... Kaylee Oetken
Playbill Artwork ..... Kaylee Oetken
Playbill Design ..... Kenny Kartman

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Crew

Stage

Ethan Andrews
Micah Buehner
Marshall Frye
Judson LaFlamme
Nora Lievens
Michala Woodruff

Audio

Olivia Cansler
Thomas Elkins
Bryce Felber
Levi Gillespie
Kaylee Oetken

Technical Director ..... Isaiah Oetken
Stage Manager ..... Victoria Hinman
Sound Board ..... Levi Gillespie
Lights and Sound Effects ..... Olivia Cansler
Thomas Elkins



Hair and Costumes

Rebekah Birschbach
Melody DeLeon
Natalie Harms
Cassandra Palus
Emma Sinclair
Lydia Studer
Aleigha Standerwick
Grace Wright

Makeup

Kallei Brown
Ian Kermott
Victoria Hinman
Leanna Oetken
Isaiah Oetken
Hunter Weakley
Emily Wilson
Michala Woodruff

Cast Bios



Hunter Weakley as
Henry Higgins

A Watertown resident, Hunter is a Communication Arts senior with an English minor. Hunter has appeared in sixteen productions, more recently playing Carter Langdon in *M'Liss*, Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*, and Professor Bhaer in *Little Women: The Broadway Musical*. Playing Henry Higgins has been his most challenging and rewarding stage experience, "especially because," as he explains, "I have had the opportunity to explore a character who (I hope!) is not much like myself. It is so entertaining to get into the head of a brilliantly aloof egotist like Higgins—I mean, who doesn't like a good insult like 'you presumptuous insect!'"

Kaylee Oetken as
Eliza Doolittle



For Kaylee, a sophomore Communication Arts major from Watertown, minoring in Piano Pedagogy, theater is a family affair: her parents met on a stage crew in college, and her father serves as MBU's technical director. Since making her stage debut at age seven as Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol*, Kaylee has performed in sixteen productions, most recently as Amy March in *Little Women: The Broadway Musical*. She finds playing protagonist Eliza Doolittle an exciting challenge. "To my surprise," Kaylee shares, "the most difficult part wasn't capturing her transformation from flower girl to lady; it was portraying Eliza's confidence and intelligence consistently, despite her external change. Eliza's true development lies in her realization that her new behavior doesn't change her inherent worth."



Reagan Longsine as

Colonel Pickering

Reagan is a junior Business Management major from Oshkosh, Wisconsin, minoring in Organizational Leadership. His past roles include the jovial Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol* and gruff Mr. Laurence in *Little Women: The Broadway Musical*. Although Colonel Pickering fits the same benevolent older gentleman archetype, Reagan enjoys delving into Pickering's striking differences, viewing him as a naïve but well-intentioned soul. "Perhaps the most memorable aspect of Colonel Pickering is his kindness and willingness to help others," Reagan says.

Hailee Butler as

Mrs. Higgins



A longtime resident of Watertown, Hailee has participated in several MBU productions, most recently portraying a charwoman in *A Christmas Carol*, sharing the stage with her father, who played the infamous Scrooge. A senior Communication Arts major with a Biblical Counseling minor, she identifies with Professor Higgins' mother who, though gracious and compassionate, refuses to indulge her son's pompous insensitivity. Hailee admires her character's integrity, saying, "I love that Mrs. Higgins advocates for Eliza, even though she won't benefit personally from her efforts. I think that's beautiful."

Cast Bios, cont'd.



Kallei Brown as
Mrs. Pearce

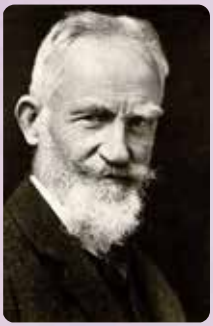
Kallei, a Watertown resident, is a sophomore studying English and Dramatic Productions. Past credits include roles as Martha Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*, Louisa in *The Sound of Music* and, most recently, as Marmee in *Little Women: The Broadway Musical*. Now stepping back into a mature, sensible persona, she has enjoyed becoming Mrs. Pearce, Professor Higgins's unflappable housekeeper, claiming, "Mrs. Pearce is altogether an exciting role to play as she brings life to Professor Higgins's home with her no-nonsense, motherly, dignified manner."

Owynn Butler as
Alfred Doolittle



Hailing from Hollister, California, Owynn previously debuted as Christopher Wren in MBU's production of *The Mousetrap*. A junior Music major, concentrating in Oboe and Composing/Arranging, he leaves his refined classical world behind to capture the spirit of the cynical dustman, Doolittle. Owynn enjoys exploring his character's financial hypocrisy, noting, "When he is poor, all he wants is money, but when he gets money, he hates the responsibility that comes with it, yet he cannot bring himself to get rid of the money because he loves it too much."

About the Playwrite



George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) was born in Dublin, the son of a civil servant. His education was irregular due to his dislike of any organized training. After working in an estate agent's office for a while, he moved to London as a young man (1876), where he established himself as a leading music and theatre critic in the eighties and nineties and became a prominent member of the Fabian Society, for which he composed many pamphlets.

He began his literary career as a novelist; as a fervent advocate of the new theatre of Ibsen (The Quintessence of Ibsenism, 1891) he decided to write plays in order to illustrate his criticism of the English stage. His earliest dramas were called appropriately Plays Pleasant and Plays Unpleasant (1898). Among these, Widower's Houses and Mrs. Warren's Profession savagely attack social hypocrisy.

Shaw's radical rationalism, his utter disregard of conventions, his keen dialectic interest, and his verbal wit often turn the stage into a forum of ideas, as in *Man and Superman* (1903). His masterpiece *Saint Joan* (1923) rewrites the well-known story of the French maiden and extends it from the Middle Ages to the present.

Other important plays by Shaw are *Caesar and Cleopatra* (1901), *Major Barbara* (1905), *The Doctor's Dilemma* (1906), *Candida* (1898), and *Pygmalion* (1912). A combination of the dramatic, the comic, and the social corrective that give Shaw's comedies their special flavor. Shaw's complete works appeared in 36 volumes between 1930 and 1950, the year of his death.

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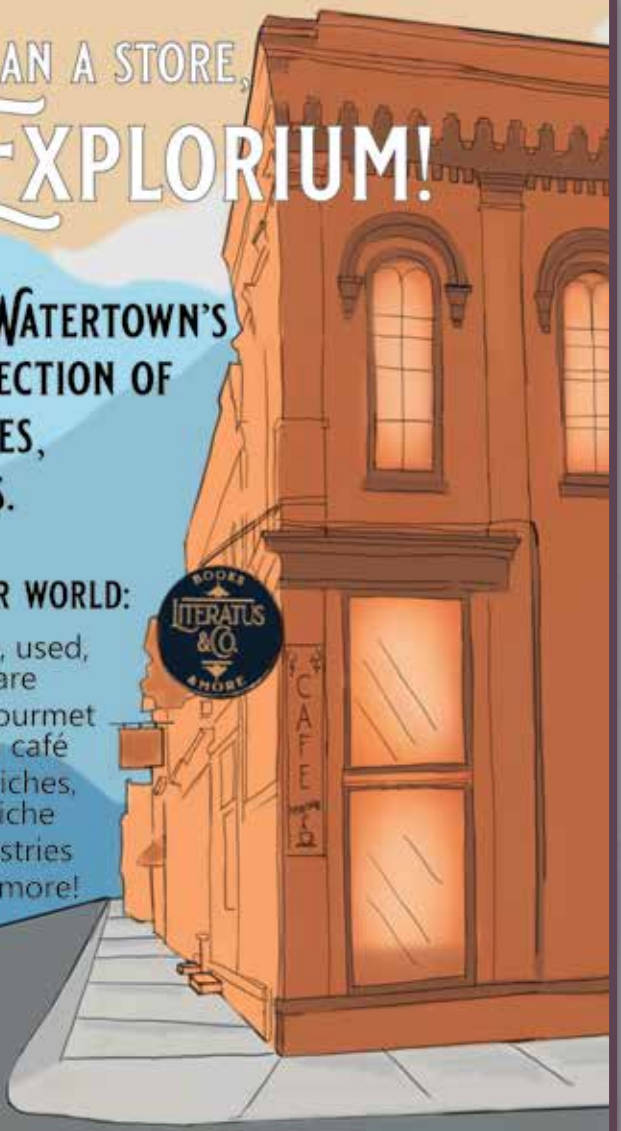
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Music and Drama Camp - June 7-11, 2027 mbu.edu/camps

Contact: finearts@mbu.edu

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